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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO at (571) 273-8300 or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 7, 2006.

Erin Cowles

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Ref. No.: 12439-0036

Appl. No. : 10/673,686 Confirmation No. 1295

Applicant : Eldridge et al.
Filed : September 29, 2003

TC/A.U. : 2829

Examiner : Ernest F. Karlsen

Docket No. : P7D7C2-US

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT

## Greetings:

In response to the final Office Action of January 9, 2006, the shortened statutory period for response to which ends after April 10, 2006 (the first business day following April 9, 2006), and in conjunction with the filing of a Request For Continued Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the list of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.